

Message Text

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USOECF FOR OECD PARIS; USOECF FOR FORRESTER;

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SUBJECT:MEETING OF OECD TOURISM COMMITTEE

PASS ONLY TO ICO/DEARING COMAFF/GRANT

1. THE COMMITTEE, AT ITS 35TH SESSION, JULY 5-6, WILL HAVE BEFORE IT A REPORT ENTITLED, REPORT ON TOURISM POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL TOURISM IN OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES, 1978.
2. THE U.S. WISHES TO ADD TO, AND AMEND, CERTAIN PORTIONS OF THE REPORT.
3. PARAGRAPH 19, PAGE 9 SHOULD BE DELETED AND REPLACED WITH THE FOLLOWING:

IN APRIL, 1978, THE UNITED STATES CONCLUDED THE FIRST BILATERAL AGREEMENT ON TOURISM IN ITS DIPLOMATIC HISTORY
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WI EXICO. SIGNED MAY 4, THE AGREEMENT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, OBLIGATES THE PARTIES TO FACILITATE AND ENCOURAGE THE ACTIVITIES OF TRAVEL AGENTS, TOUR OPERATORS, AIRLINES, RAILROADS, MOTOR COACH OPERATORS, AND STEAMSHIP COMPANIES GENERATING TWO-WAY TOURISM BETWEEN THEIR COUNTRIES; ENDEAVOR TO REDUCE, SIMPLIFY OR ELIMINATE, AS APPROPRIATE, BARRIERS TO ENTRY OF TOURISTS INTO BOTH COUNTRIES; CONSULT

ON THE OPENING OF ADDITIONAL BORDER CROSSING POINTS;

ENCOURAGE THE TRAINING OF PERSONNEL AT PORTS OF ENTRY AND ELSEWHERE WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE TERRITORIES SO THAT TOURISTS' RIGHTS ARE RESPECTED AND TOURISTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES ARE EXTENDED ALL APPROPRIATE COURTESIES; ESTABLISH IN THE NEAR FUTURE A PROGRAM OF TOURIST AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN GRADUALLY THE TIES BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF THE BORDER AREA AND TO IMPROVE THE OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE INHABITANTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES; ENCOURAGE THE BALANCED AND OBJECTIVE PRESENTATION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE HISTORIC AND SOCIO-CULTURAL HERITAGES; ESTABLISH A TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON TOURISM STATISTICS IN WHICH THE COMPETENT AGENCIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES SHALL PARTICIPATE. THE AGREEMENT IS VALID FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

4. IN PARAGRAPH 39, PAGE 13 SHOULD BE DELETED AND REPLACED WITH THE FOLLOWING:

TWO PROPOSALS FOR AN EXPANDED U.S. NATIONAL TOURIST OFFICE WERE AMONG THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF A NATIONAL TOURISM POLICY STUDY UNDERTAKEN BY THE U.S. SENATE. ADMINISTRATION AND U.S. TRAVEL INDUSTRY VIEWS ON THE PROPOSALS WERE EXPECTED TO BE PRESENTED AT HEARINGS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR MID-1978.

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5. PARAGRAPH 87, PAGE 20 SHOULD BE DELETED AND REPLACED WITH THE FOLLOWING:

THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE CONGRESS MOVED TOWARD COMPROMISE ON TAX REFORM PROPOSALS WHICH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, COULD AFFECT THE AMOUNT OF ALLOWABLE EXPENSES AMERICANS MAY DEDUCT, FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES, AFTER ATTENDING A FOREIGN CONVENTION OR HOSTING A BUSINESS LUNCH.

6. PARAGRAPH 103, PAGE 23 SHOULD BE DELETED.

7. PARAGRAPH 131, PAGE 28 SHOULD BE AMENDED BY DELETING THE LAST SENTENCE.

8. PARAGRAPH 147, PAGE 31, SHOULD BE AMENDED BY REPLACING THE FIRST TWO SENTENCES WITH THESE SENTENCES:

IN 1977, THE UNITED STATES TRAVEL SERVICE DEVELOPED TRAINING MATERIALS DESIGNED TO HELP LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO PLAN AND CARRY OUT TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES ON A SOUND BASIS. THE APPROACH WAS BASED ON A DETERMINATION

OF SPECIFIC TRAINING NEEDS AND A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF
STATE AND LOCAL TOURISM PROGRAMS.

9. PARAGRAPH 178, PAGE 36 SHOULD BE AMENDED BY ELIMINATING THE LAST SENTENCE AND BY REPLACING THE FIRST TWO SENTENCES WITH THIS SENTENCE:

IN 1977, THE UNITED STATES TRAVEL SERVICE AWARDED 83 MATCHING GRANTS, TOTALING \$590,000, TO STATES, CITIES, AND OTHER NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, TO HELP THEM IMPROVE THEIR PROMOTION, DEVELOPMENT AND RECEPTION CAPACITIES.

10. PARAGRAPH 237, PAGE 49 SHOULD BE DELETED AND REPLACED WITH:
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IN MARCH 1977, THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO ESTABLISHED A "CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM", A TASK FORCE COMPRISED OF FIVE WORKING GROUPS OF OFFICIALS FROM BOTH COUNTRIES. THE TOURISM WORKING GROUP MET IN JULY AND AGREED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO TAKE RECIPROCAL ACTION TO FACILITATE PROMPT BILATERAL TALKS ON AIR TRANSPORT MATTERS. SUBSEQUENTLY, AIR TRANSPORT NEGOTIATIONS WERE INITIATED IN SEPTEMBER AND RESULTED BY YEAR-END IN THE FIRST AIR SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN SEVEN YEARS. THE NEW BILATERAL PROVIDES FOR NEW OR IMPROVED AIR SERVICE TO 31 AMERICAN POINTS AND 23 POINTS IN MEXICO, INCLUDING EACH RESORTS.

11. PARAGRAPH 256 SHOULD BE REVISED BY AMENDING THE FIRST SENTENCE TO READ:

A BILL TO REFORM AND IMPROVE CUSTOMS PROCEDURES (H.R.8149) WAS ENACTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENT TO THE SENATE. VANCE

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